

City of Santa Barbara

Fire Department

Chief's Message

December 17, 2009

I am very pleased and honored to be appointed as Santa Barbara City's 15th Fire Chief. As a long time resident and member of our wonderful community, I could not be prouder. The men and women of the Santa Barbara City Fire Department train daily, work hard, and are committed to providing excellence in preparation, response and recovery for our emergency needs.

But we know we need your help!

Preparing the public to be ready for emergencies is another important mission of the Fire Department. Excellent information on preparedness can be found on the City's Emergency Services webpage at: <http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/OES/>. After enduring 3 major wildfires within 18 months, the importance of being ready for an emergency by every household can not be over emphasized. Not only fires, but effects from flooding, earthquake, and even hazardous material spill events can seriously impact our lives here in the coastal plains.

As the New Year is fast upon us, I would like to encourage all members of our community to **Get Ready**. Make a New Years resolution to **Get Ready**, and take some simple steps to make your family more resistant to the impacts of emergencies. Make the following resolutions:

I will:

- 1) Get an Emergency Supply Kit, for home and for car
<http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/OES/Videos/>
- 2) Make a family emergency plan
http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/OES/Create_a_Plan/
- 3) Be informed about the type of emergencies in our area and responses that are appropriate for you and your family.
<http://www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/index.html>

Your partner in safety,



Fire Chief